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UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 003479

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: EL SALVADOR: INL MONTHLY ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR
NOVEMBER 2005

REF: SANSALVADOR 03364

1. (U) The following summarizes Embassy INL activities in November 2005. Unless otherwise indicated, all statistics refer to the month of November 2005.

ILEA

2. (U) From November 14 to 18, FBI instructors taught Crime Scene Management techniques to 12 police officers each from El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Panama. The course is particularly valuable for solving crimes in which witnesses are too afraid to come forward with information. On November 30, the National Legislature of El Salvador ratified the ILEA treaty to create ILEA San Salvador (See Reftel A).

NARCOTICS INTERDICTION

3. (U) Operations: Officers of the Anti-Narcotics Police (DAN) at the INL-constructed vehicle inspection facility in El Amatillo inspected 280 cars, 385 passenger buses, and 252 commercial freight trucks. In all operations throughout the country, the INL-supported DAN seized eight metric tons (MT) of marijuana, four MT of cocaine, and four MT of heroin, as well as arresting 61 individuals for trafficking offenses.

4. (U) Training: INL funded the travel of the DAN Director and a DAN investigator to Guatemala to attend an International Drug Enforcement Conference (Mini-IDEC) sponsored by DEA.

MONEY LAUNDERING

5. (U) Operations: The INL-supported Financial Investigations Unit (FIU) received 10 Suspicious Activities Reports, opened 3 new investigations, and identified and removed 326 false dollar-denominated bills from circulation. No convictions for money laundering were realized.

6. (U) Training: INL funded the travel of the Director of El Salvador's interagency working group on terrorism (GRITE) to Buenos Aires to attend a terrorism financing working shop sponsored by the OAS.

HUMAN SMUGGLING/TRAFFICKING AND TRANSIT SECURITY

7. (U) Operations: The INL-supported Border Police (Fronteras) arrested 31 individuals for human smuggling; no arrests were realized for trafficking in persons. Police operations rescued 22 minors in the process of being smuggled. No convictions for trafficking were realized. The Attorney General's office did, however, win its first conviction for smuggling. (Septel).

ORGANIZED CRIME, RULE OF LAW, AND DEMAND REDUCTION

8. (U) Organized Crime: In November, the PNC arrested 897 individuals for gang-related criminal activity. Of these arrests, 20 percent of the cases were dismissed for lack of evidence, 65 percent are incarcerated awaiting trial, and 15 percent were assigned alternative sentencing (community service). 29 gang members were killed due to gang-related violence. Both arrests and gang member deaths were down significantly for the month of November.

9. (U) Demand Reduction: The INL-supported NGO PREVEE provided instruction on detecting and preventing substance abuse in the workplace to 474 police supervisors. Barclay